

Docket No. 295054US0PCT

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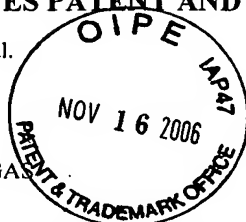
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yutaka MITANI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/589,580

FILED: August 16, 2006

FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING BIOGAS



GAU:

EXAMINER:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, some of which are cited in the attached International Search Report and International Preliminary Report on Patentability. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

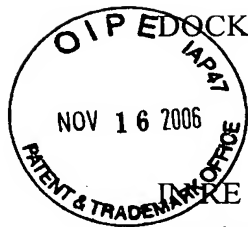
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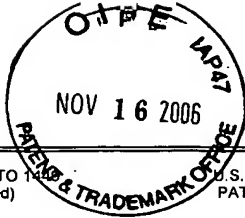
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**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY**

**References AM through AO on Form PTO-1449:**

These references are cited in the specification.

Form PTO 1500  
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

295054US0PCT

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## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Yutaka MITANI, et al.

FILING DATE

August 16, 2006

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AM	61-8200	01/14/1986	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AN	2001-149983	06/05/2001	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AO	2003-135089	05/13/2003	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AP	5-96294	04/20/1993	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AQ	7-136694	05/30/1995	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AR	2003-116589	04/22/2003	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AS	2003-135089	05/13/2003	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AT	2004-194625	07/15/2004	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AU	2005-13045	01/20/2005	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AV	2005-66420	03/17/2005	Japan (with English abstract)		X

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

☐ Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.